



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Branch
CEPOA-CO-R
Post Office Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE: March 8, 2006
EXPIRATION DATE: April 7, 2006
REFERENCE NUMBER: POA-2005-1656-4
WATERWAY: Sitka Sound

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit for certain work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the attached plan.

APPLICANT: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, PO Box 112506, Juneau, Alaska, 99811-2506; POC: Amy McLeod (907) 465-8227.

LOCATION: The proposed project is located within sections 2 & 35, T. 55 & 56 S., R. 63 E., Copper River Meridian; central location of linear project, Latitude 57.0505° N., Longitude 135.3609° W.; on Japonski Island, northeast of the existing road access to the airport at Sitka, Alaska.

PURPOSE: The purpose of the proposed project is to realign and improve the access to the airport. The re-alignment would also provide the airport with additional areas for airport facility expansion.

WORK: The applicant proposes to construct 2,400 feet of roadway. Portions of the proposed project would discharge approximately 6,700 cubic yards of clean fill material impacting approximately 0.98 acres of wetlands. The proposed work would impact three different wetland areas.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: A tree containing a bald eagle's nest is located about 85 feet from the slope limit of the new alignment. The nest tree is located in a spruce/hemlock stand and is adjacent to a foot path near a Coast Guard housing complex. The applicant has coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning potential bald eagle impacts.

There are no anadromous streams within the project area.

Waters of the U.S., including wetlands within the project area were previously impacted by the construction of military housing, roadways and paths during the World War II era. Approximately seven culverts would be installed to convey water to maintain wetland hydrology and flow patterns.

MITIGATION: As a result of early project planning, the applicant has proposed the following mitigation efforts to reduce impacts to the aquatic environment: As

compensation for unavoidable wetland impacts the applicant has offered a \$3,200.00 contribution to a land trust or other non-profit entity for use in acquiring or restoring wetlands.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify that the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. There is a registered or eligible property in the vicinity of the worksite. It has been designated **(SIT-688) Millerville**. Because it has been determined to be within the project area, a determination of effect will be made in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer at this time. Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between the Federal government and Federally recognized Tribes. This notice invites participation by agencies, Tribes, and members of the public in the Federal decision-making process. In addition, Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Engineer during the public comment period.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: No threatened or endangered species are known to use the project area.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The proposed work is being evaluated for possible effects to Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) pursuant to the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1996 (MSFCMA), 16 U.S.C. et seq and associated federal regulations found at 50 CFR 600 Subpart K. The Alaska District includes areas of EFH as Fishery Management Plans. We have reviewed the January 20, 1999, North Pacific Fishery Management Council's Environmental Assessment to locate EFH area as identified by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). We have determined that the described activity within the proposed area will not adversely affect EFH, including anadromous fish and federally managed fishery resources.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: None.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The decision whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur, are therefore determined by the outcome of the general balancing process. That decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact John Klutz at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at john.r.klutz@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

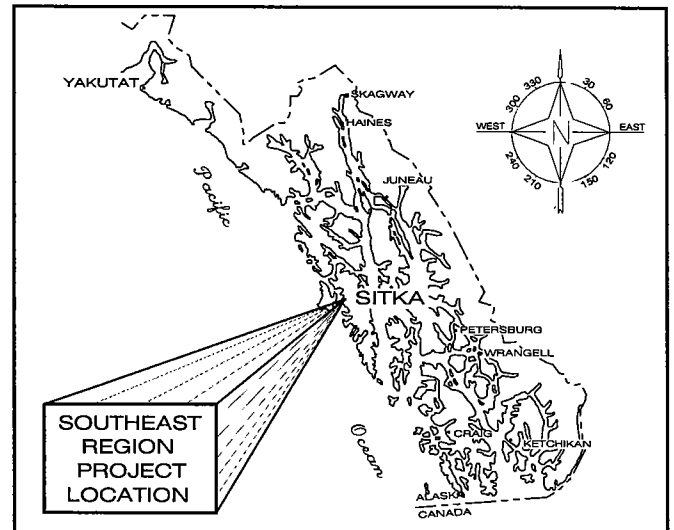
A plan, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are attached to this Public Notice.

District Engineer
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

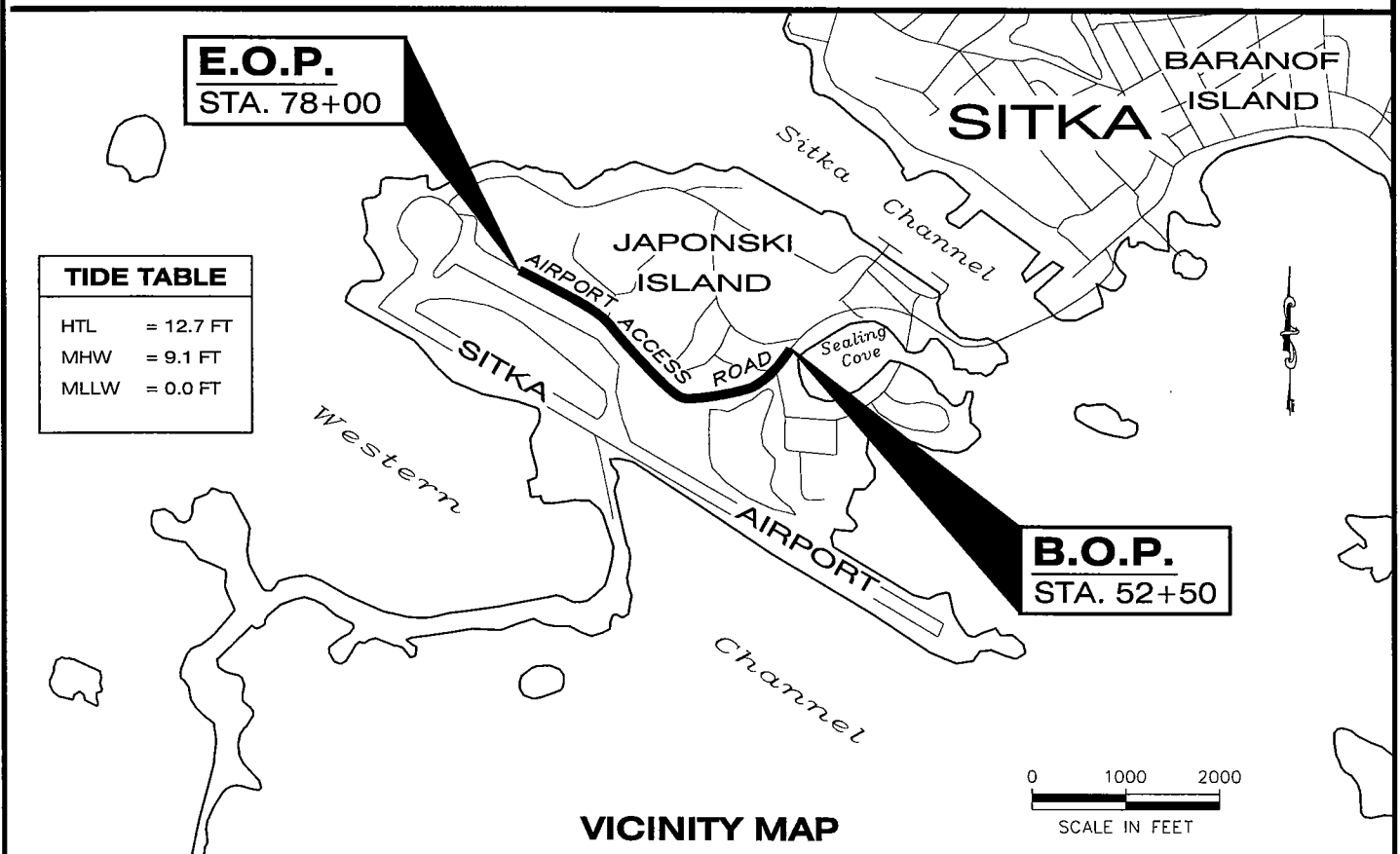
Attachments



AREA MAP



LOCATION MAP



VICINITY MAP

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHMENT

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WATER BODIES:
WESTERN CHANNEL
SITKA CHANNEL

AREA, LOCATION & VICINITY MAPS

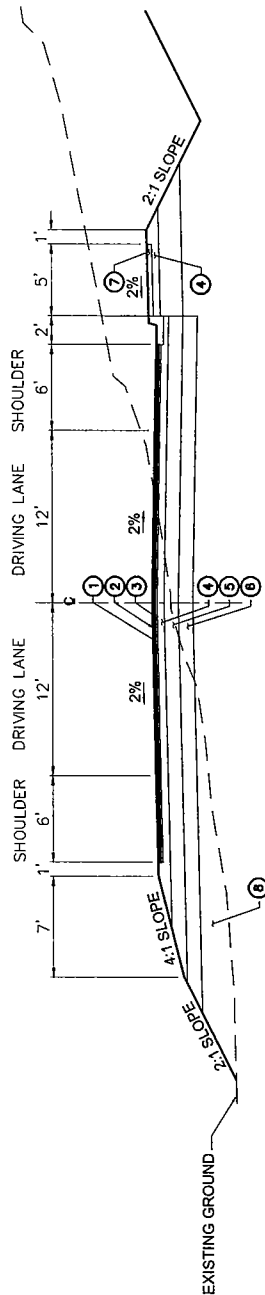
APPLICATION BY:
ALASKA STATE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
S.E. REGION DESIGN & ENGINEERING SERVICES

AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

AT: SITKA, ALASKA

LOCATED IN: TOWNSHIPS: 55S & 56S
RANGE: 63E
SECTIONS: 2 & 35
C.R.M.

DATE: JANUARY, 2005 SHEET **1** OF **4**



TYPICAL SECTION

LEGEND

- | | |
|--|--|
| ① 2" ASPHALT CONCRETE PAVEMENT, TYPE II, CLASS B | ⑤ 12" SUBBASE |
| ② SSE-1 TACK COAT | ⑥ 12" BORROW, TYPE __, OR USEABLE EXCAVATION |
| ③ 2" ATB | ⑦ 4" CONCRETE SIDEWALK |
| ④ 6" CRUSHED AGGREGATE BASE COURSE, D-1 | ⑧ BORROW, TYPE __, OR USEABLE EXCAVATION |

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHMENT

WATER BODIES:
WESTERN CHANNEL
SITKA CHANNEL

TYPICAL SECTIONS

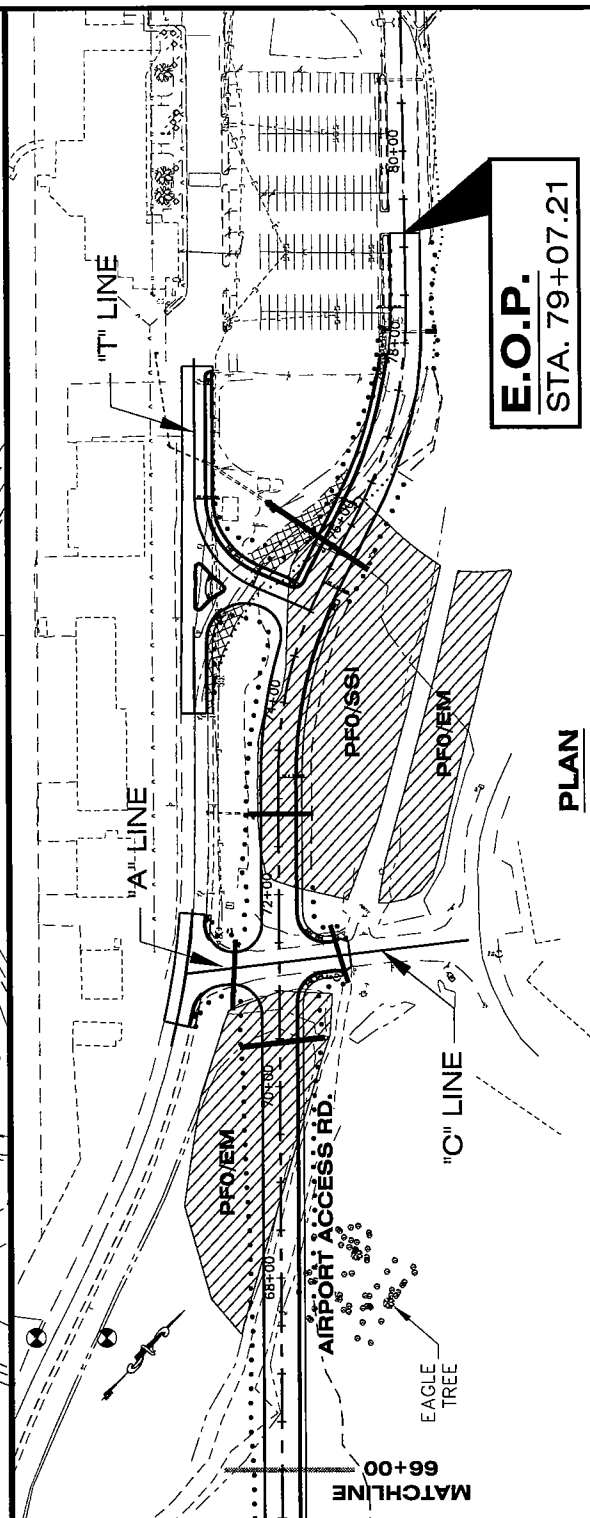
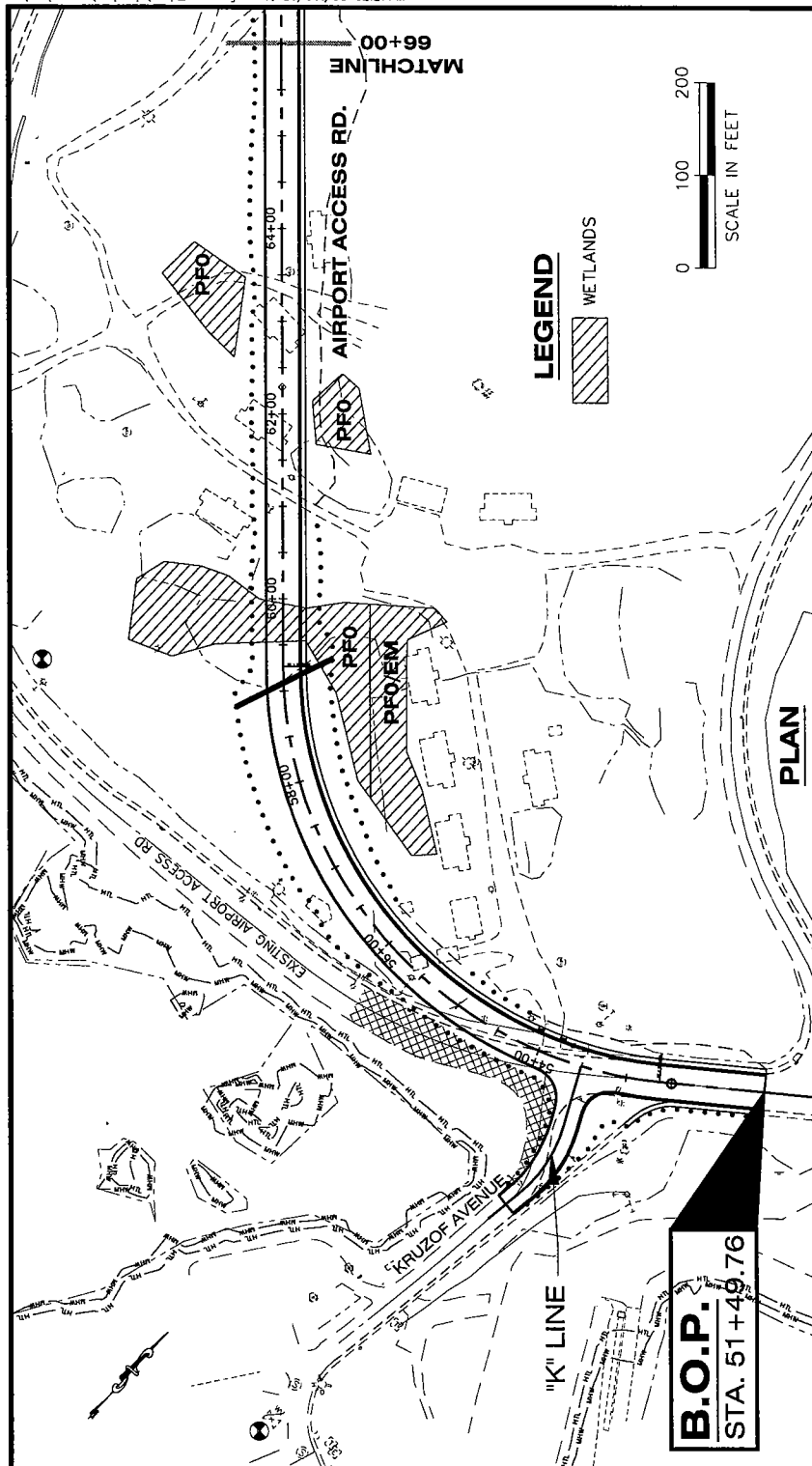
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AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

AT: SITKA, ALASKA

LOCATED IN: TOWNSHIPS: 55S & 56S
RANGE: 63E
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DATE: JANUARY, 2005 SHEET **2** OF **4**



ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHMENT

WATER BODIES:
WESTERN CHANNEL
SITKA CHANNEL

LAYOUT PLAN

APPLICATION BY:
ALASKA STATE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
S.E. REGION DESIGN & ENGINEERING SERVICES

AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

AT: SITKA, ALASKA

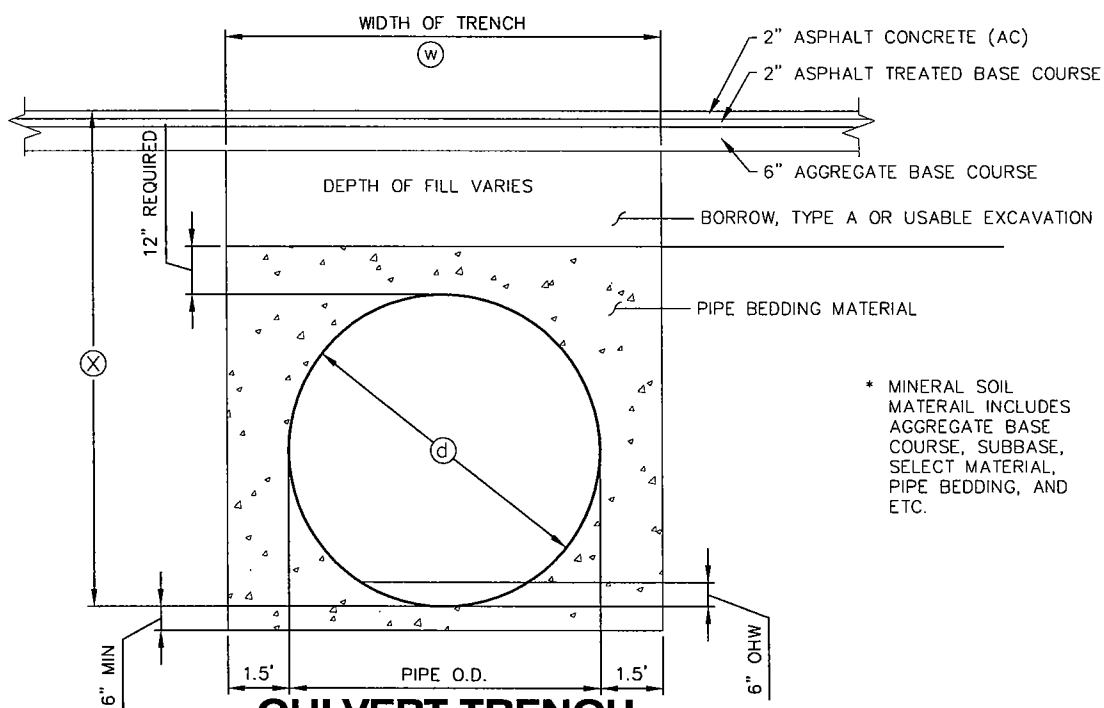
LOCATED IN: TOWNSHIPS: 55S & 56S
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DATE: JANUARY, 2005 SHEET **3** OF **4**

SITKA AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD CROSS-CULVERTS

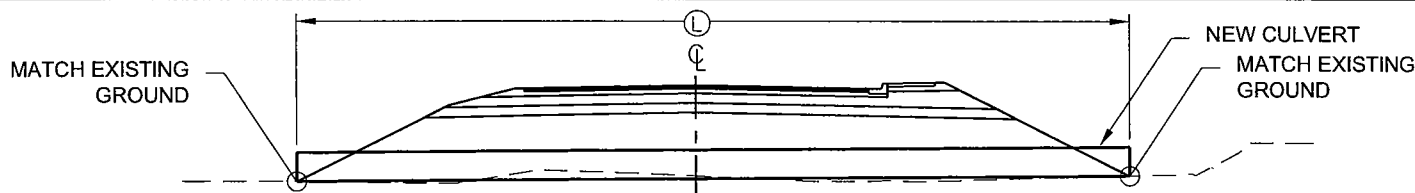
STA	DIAMETER ⓓ (IN)	LENGTH Ⓛ (FT)	Ⓦ TRENCH WIDTH (FT)	DEPTH ⓧ (FT)	BEDDING BELOW OHW (CY)	REMARKS
"O" LINE						
59+08	36	116	6	15	26	
70+45	36	87	6	10	19	
72+83	24	65	5	4.5	12	
75+70	36	124	6	8	28	
78+12	24	9	5	7.5	2	EXTENSION
"A" LINE						
1+52	24	70	5	9	13	
"C" LINE						
1+64	24	60	5	4	11	

TOTAL 111



* MINERAL SOIL
MATERIAL INCLUDES
AGGREGATE BASE
COURSE, SUBBASE,
SELECT MATERIAL,
PIPE BEDDING, AND
ETC.

CULVERT TRENCH DETAIL



TYPICAL CULVERT PROFILE

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
SEE ATTACHMENT

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WATER BODIES:
WESTERN CHANNEL
SITKA CHANNEL

PIPE INSTALLATION DETAILS

APPLICATION BY:
ALASKA STATE DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
AND PUBLIC FACILITIES
S.E. REGION DESIGN & ENGINEERING SERVICES

AIRPORT ACCESS ROAD

AT: SITKA, ALASKA
LOCATED IN: TOWNSHIPS: 55S & 56S
RANGE: 63E
SECTIONS: 2 & 35
C.R.M.

DATE: JANUARY, 2005 SHEET **4** OF **4**

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING

OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING
302 GOLD STREET, SUITE 202
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801-1127
PHONE: (907) 465-3562/FAX: (907) 465-3075

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE
ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No., **POA-2005-1656-4, Sitka Sound**, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

This project is being reviewed for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Written comments about the consistency of the project with the applicable ACMP statewide standards and district policies must be submitted to the Office of Project Management and Permitting. For information about this consistency review, contact OPMP at (907) 269-7470 or (907) 465-3562, or visit the ACMP web site at <http://www.gov.state.ak.us/gdc/Projects/projects.html>.

FRANK H. MURKOWSKI, GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALASKA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF WATER

401 Certification Program

Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No.: **POA-2005-1656-4, Sitka Sound**, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify that there is reasonable assurance that the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project with respect to Water Quality Certification may submit written comments within 30 days of the date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice to:

Department of Environmental Conservation
WQM/401 Certification
410 Willoughby Avenue
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1795
Telephone: (907) 465-5321
FAX: (907) 465-5274